

## THE YEAR'S CROPS.

### THE DAY OF LOW PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS PAST.

The Disappearance of the World's Surplus Accelerated by Drouths and by Failures.

To the Editor of the Beacon.

Bad as is the drouth covering so many states, and deplorable as is the resulting destruction of the corn and other crops, and the denuding of the meadows and pastures and the hardships and privations which it will bring to individuals and communities, it is by no means unmixed evil, as it will hasten, by two or three years, that return to higher prices for all the products of the farm, so desirable and so much longed for, and which will result in restoring to the people a fair degree of prosperity.

The wheat crop of the United States is certainly not more than 75 per cent of that of 1889, and the corn and oat crop probably will not exceed 66 per cent of the great crop of that year, yet paradoxical as it may appear these short crops will, in all probability, bring more money to the farmers than did those of 1889, although individual farmers and many communities whose crops are this year—total failures, will suffer greatly while other individuals and localities will be benefited.

It is through the complete elimination of the reserves of grain throughout the world that this year of crop failure will, in a measure, compensate for these individual and local losses as well as enter upon the next (1891) crop year with every wheat and oat bin and corn crib swept clean, and begin to consume the crops of 1891 two or three earlier months than usual and this means no surplus at the end of the year, a condition of high prices and the entering upon the 1892 crop year with no reserves, and by the time we have disposed of the crop of 1892 our population will have increased fully 5,000,000, requiring the product of not less than 15,000,000 acres more than does the present population and this means that we have seen, in our day and generation, the last of the low prices for farm products and this inevitable state of affairs has been brought about from two to three years sooner than it would have been had the crops of 1890 equalled those of 1889.

Last year we produced forty-five bushels of oats and corn for each unit of population. This year the product of such grain will not exceed thirty bushels per capita, while the annual consumption has, of late years, been about thirty-nine bushels per capita. The world's supply of wheat is in about the same condition as our supply of feeding grains. For instance, "Dornbush" of July 18 states that the stock of wheat in the hands of the farmers on that date was 5,600,000 imperial bushels less than at the same time in 1889, and that the stocks of wheat in the bonded warehouses of the seaports of France were, at the end of June, 5,744,000 imperial bushels less than in 1889.

H. Kains Jackson, in a recent issue of "Dornbush" says that "each succeeding year the bread-eating countries of Europe have less grain and flour in their cupboards than twelve months previously. There may be 20,000,000 bushels more afloat now than twenty-five years ago, but the reserves in the hands of farmers, bonded granaries, and in the flour mills are 149,000,000 bushels less than then. The steady reduction of reserves due to the greater facilities of transportation, makes the property seem more plentiful than it is in fact, but it is evident the reduction can not go on forever. Indeed, the process would seem already to have gone about as far as it can go, and the result must be a relative scarcity ere long, the quantity available being a smaller proportion of that actually needed."

That the world's product of wheat is short and that those who are able to hold their grain eight or nine months will realize much higher prices, is indicated by the following record of European crop prospects from data older than July 15:

"The most stimulating feature of the wheat market during the past fortnight has been the active French demand which has absorbed nearly every cargo of California wheat due to arrive off the coast during the next month and invaded Liverpool itself and carried off a large cargo from the Mersey to discharge at Havre. It is evident that the French have run down their stock to an unusually low point in anticipation of an early and abundant harvest, and the weather proving favorable and their native wheat exhausted they had to buy freely to keep their mills going."

"Owing to the continued rise in silver, Indian quotations still advance and Bombay wheat, at latest figures, is quite out of reach for shipment to Liverpool. The offerings of Russian wheat have also much diminished and prices advanced."

CONDITION OF RUSSIAN CROPS.

KIEV, July 15.—Locusts have appeared in large numbers in the vicinity of Brouni and crops have suffered much therefrom.

SIMBIRSK, July 15.—The autumn wheat is poor, the rye has matured well but the spring wheat has an indifferent appearance.

TEMISTOKOL, July 15.—The prevailing hot weather is injuring the spring crops. Rye harvesting has commenced and the yield is unsatisfactory.

ODESSA, July 16.—Wheat further advanced in value from 4½ to 6½ cents per bushel and stocks are very small being but 80,000 bushels, while daily receipts are quite insignificant.

Within the last few days the weather has been exceedingly hot and numerous complaints were heard from the Dnieper valley of the spring wheat and barley being burnt or parched by drouth.

A sudden change to rain occurred while the barley and rye were being cut and its almost ceaseless fall for three days and nights seriously obstructed harvest operations and it is believed a great deal of damage has been done especially in Bessarabia.

More recent cable advices from the American consul at Odessa give a very dark shade to Russian crop prospects, as do the latest Russian government estimates.

HARVEST PROSPECTS IN MACEDONIA.

SLAVONICA, July 16.—Prospects of the forthcoming harvest are rather unfavorable. In a number of fertile valleys the autumn sown crops, especially hard wheat and barley, through the protracted drouth, are almost wholly lost. Farmers have turned their cattle into the fields and are thinking of denouncing government assistance.

In the outlying districts where rye and oats are chiefly grown a moderate harvest is looked for. The grain market could not fail to be affected and all export business brought to a

stand by the rapid rise in prices and the imports of flour, in the last month, have augmented.

### CROPS IN SPAIN.

CASAS IBAÑEZ, MURCIA, July 15.—The cereal harvest in this commune, and barley particularly, will yield hardly half a crop. Wheat will prove somewhat better but not so good as was anticipated in March, the cold weather of April and May having injured it greatly.

"Toro, July 15.—The cereals will afford but a medium return and of rather indifferent quality."

"BARCELONA, July 15.—Advices from the producing districts announce great firmness in prices owing to the indifferent reports of the (Spanish) wheat crop. The harvest, in fact, has commenced in several provinces and now it is almost a certainty that only half a crop will be garnered. From this state of affairs wheat of all descriptions is held with much tenacity."

### SWITZERLAND.

"GENEVA, July 15.—Up to the present time the weather has been rainy and very prejudicial to the wheat, many of the fields being laid and ripening much retarded; oats are in good condition but still green; rye cutting will soon begin. The crop is a little backward and the fields are generally patchy and much lodged."

### BELGIUM.

ANTWERP, July 15.—The weather has been gradually improving and may now be considered as fairly favorable while a continued warm and dry spell is now only needed to secure good crops. The injury already reported is not likely to affect seriously the ultimate out-turn. The tone of the Antwerp grain market has ruled firm, wheat having risen while rye was firmer and sought after barley brought higher prices; oats supported values while maize kept firm through a brisk enquiry."

### GERMANY.

"The weather of the past week has been very variable and stormy with much rain and a low temperature. Under these unfavorable meteorological conditions the prospect of good cereal crops have more or less diminished. At Berlin wheat displayed a stronger tendency and both Silesia and August deliveries advanced materially. Rye has also ruled higher for near terms (options)."

"The stock is almost disposed of so that July delivery improved 7 marks and August 5 marks. At Danzig offers of wheat have been smaller than of late and prices have risen, and at Hamburg stocks of all kinds of grain are very short as the new crop will be harvested and arrive later than expected, and with a brisk enquiry the values of cereals were in vendors' favor."

### HUNGARIAN CROPS.

Advices from Pesth are to the effect that the weather has been dry and not too hot and eminently suited for harvest work, and the cutting and carrying of the crops has made much progress. Wheat and rye almost come up to the expectations previously entertained, rye being of good quality but wheat leaving something to be wished for in respect to color.

In the market wheat opened firm under a good enquiry and moderate offers and prices successively advanced 30 to 35 kreutzers.

### ATRIA.

Thunder storms of extreme severity have occurred in several parts of the country and very great damage has accrued to the standing crops. In places the storms were followed by heavy falls of snow, the temperature falling to 34° Fahrenheit. The crops in the vicinity of Gastein and Lienz are almost wholly lost. A sudden return of great heat caused rapid melting of the snow, whereby many rivers overflowed their banks and extensive fertile districts have been submerged.

The Vienna grain market a firmer tone prevailed and the rising tendency of the foreign exchanges, in conjunction with the continued scantiness of supplies led to an advance of 15 kreutzers in the value of wheat."

### FRANCE.

In France the record is one of a succession of storms and of crop disaster unequalled during the past decade, one cable dispatch placing the losses from crop injury at the seemingly improbable sum of \$100,000,000 and stating that only in the very limited portion of France lying east of the Rhone—say one-tenth the area of the republic—there are now more crops than a half crop. While this is not an exaggeration of a very grave state of affairs, if, as some claim, the product of the whole of France will be but one fourth an average crop, it will necessitate the importation, by France, of 50,000,000 bushels of wheat in or about half a crop an importation of 180,000,000 bushels either of which quantities it would be impossible to procure even with full crops elsewhere and an utterly impossible quantity under existing crop conditions throughout the world.

### ENGLAND.

The crops have been greatly injured by excessively wet weather and a low temperature, the harvest greatly delayed with estimates of damage ranging all the way from 5 to 25 per cent.

In Asia Minor and European Turkey the crops are short and of all important European wheat growing districts only Italy and parts of the Balkan region promise anything like average crops.

This condition of the year's crops and the remarkably small quantities of home grown grain offering in all European markets coupled with prices advancing abnormally as harvest progresses, is the best possible evidence of an unusual state of affairs and shows most convincingly that old stocks have, everywhere in Europe, ceased to exist and that there is a consensus of opinion that the current harvest will be nearly or quite deficient in Europe as it is now known to be in America, and "a waiting game" is all that is necessary to insure the United States the entire control of the market and the ability to dictate our own price for the small amount of wheat which we shall be able to send abroad and, also, to fix the price of that consumed at home at a figure that will remunerate the producer.

### RESUMPTION OF CANAL WORK.

PANAMA, August 4.—The only intelligence concerning canal matters that has been received is to the effect that the negotiations with the Colombian government are going on smoothly. Meanwhile Lieutenant Wiss's engineers are pushing their preparations for an early resumption of work. Their careful examination of the condition of the plant has resulted very satisfactorily, everything being in as good if not better preservation and order than could have been expected. The greatest trouble and delay in commencing work will therefore not be due to the condition of the plant, but of the works which are covered over completely with nature's green mantle.

### PENSIONS FOR KANSANS.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—The following pensions were granted Kansas: Original Michael Warley, 4½; Andrew Seagriff, 4½; John Harkins, 4½; Charles H. Klock, 4½; Peter Knapp,

## NEW REDUCTIONS.

### MR. PLUMB CONTINUES HIS LOW TARIFF FIGHT.

The Kansas and Nebraska Senators Make Many Attempts for Just Rates.

Messrs. Plumb and Teller Denounce the Proposition to Gag Members Who Wish to Speak.

Another Day Devoted by the House to Attacks on and Defense of the Speaker—The Report on the Breckinridge Case Made Public.

—The Week's Program—Capital Notes.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—In the senate Mr. Davis offered a resolution calling on the secretary of war for information on the subject of the academy, Friday to the lock of the Sault Ste. Marie canal. He spoke of it as a most serious calamity to the commerce of the nation, costing (as he had been informed by telegram) \$500,000 a day.

After considerable debate, in which some of the senators took occasion to criticize severely the house for its failure to pass the senate bill for a second and larger lock the resolution was agreed to.

The presiding officer (Mr. Ingalls) said that he had observed, with regret, the growing tendency to allude in terms of severity and disparagement to the proceedings of the other house of congress. It was a violation of the fundamental principles of parliamentary law to refer in one house to what was done or said in the other house. He hoped that the senate, in preservation of its own dignity and in the protection of its own immunity, would observe those rules and refrain from such allusions in the future.

The resolution offered on Saturday last by Mr. Plumb, as to the internment of the remains of General Grant in the Washington National cemetery, was at the suggestion of Mr. Plumb allowed to remain on the table to be called up some other time.

The tariff bill was then taken up. The pending question was on Mr. Vest's amendment to the chinaware paragraph, reducing the duty on decorated ware to 50 per cent, and on plain white chinaware to 40 per cent, instead of 55 and 50 as recommended by the finance committee, and instead of 60 and 55 in the house bill.

Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, explained that the Pacific railroad clause was not provided for in the bill. While he believed the time was near at hand when these would be considered, the committee had been practically unanimous in refusing to provide for their payment until they were still pending in the courts.

Mr. Rogers, of Arkansas, attacked the speaker and his rulings. The house, he said, had degenerated into a mere debating society. He was suspected that the speaker turned his back on full, frank discussion, on opportunity to state his views, on the merits of the bill, on official urbanity, on historic and patriotic memories, in order that he might unlawfully perpetrate his party in power through the use of a vote-buying machine.

He thought it was an outrage to give them more. He moved his amendment by changing the rate on plain white chinaware to 45, instead of 40 per cent. The amendment was then voted on and was rejected—yeas 19, nays 109.

Mr. Plumb moved to amend the rate 45 per cent, and substituted another designation on which a rate of 50 per cent was fixed.

The committee amendment was agreed to. The next question was on paragraph 10, glassware, to strike out the paragraph in the house bill fixing four rates on bottles according to sizes and to substitute one rate, 10 per cent, on all bottles, and 1½ cents a pound on bottles holding less than a pint, and on demijohns and carboys, and 1½ cents a pound on bottles holding more than a pint.

The next question was on an amendment of the finance committee to strike out paragraphs 108, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

## HIS LAST DAY.

### ELECTRICITY'S AWFUL EXPERIMENT WILL COME TODAY.

The Necessary Witnesses Summoned to Appear at the Prison Late This Evening.

Days of Terror Passed by the Condemned—His Sanity and Health Admitted by All.

Great Interest at Auburn Over the Event—A General Feeling That Delay Will Again Occur—A Killing at Oklahoma—Fiendish Attempt at Murder at St. Joseph—The Criminal Record.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—The proceedings in the house this week will be governed by the attendance of members. There is a strong disposition on the part of the majority to finally pass upon the conference report of the original package bill to secure action upon the compound land bill and two of the electronic cases. But it is felt that the presence of a quorum is a necessity in these cases, and if the bill is not maintained it is probable that the house will be obliged to confine itself to the consideration of the amendments to the land appropriation bill, to the deficiency appropriation bill, and other measures which are not expected to arouse party feeling.

The report of the conference on the land grant forfeiture bill is expected to be ready for presentation to the house early in the week, but its consideration will depend with other measures named, upon the attendance secured.

The tariff will be discussed in the senate until Friday, when it will be taken up in the house and harbor appropriation bill taken up.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—The following postmasters have been appointed: Indian Territory—Oaks, Cherokee county, D. V. Rusk, vice J. D. Smith, resigned. Venn, Indian Territory, vice T. Sanders, vice F. F. Turner, resigned.

Kansas—Cedar Junction, Johnson county, Ross Jones, vice N. J. Murphy.

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